

Herald and Journal.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1848.

THE PROPERTY QUESTION.

DIFFERENT PLANS FOR ITS ADJUSTMENT.

The Richmond Christian Advocate declares quite positively, that the New York Christian Advocate and Journal is about to come out in favor of a division of the Church Property. "This is true," says the Richmond editor, italicizing his words. If so, there will be a new bone to pick for those abolition brethren, whose consciences have revolted at our own proposition to settle the difficulty, if possible, by allowing books to the South at cost price.

We have no confidence in the success of any effort to procure a formal division of the church property. There are constitutional, and moral considerations against it, which cannot be surmounted. The West has committed itself, if we can judge from its organ, against the project, and the East, we think, will collectively have but one opinion on the subject. Conferences in the former, we believe, as well as the latter, have passed resolutions against it, substantially the same with that of Maine, which declares, "That the plan of separation being unconstitutional, and the separation of the South from the North being, therefore, a secession, it is the opinion of this Conference that there should be no division of the church property between them and us." Any proposition for a division must go before these Conferences; does any man suppose that they will be induced to acknowledge their first action on the subject a blunder, and retract a formal and deliberate vote?

There are three propositions now before the Methodist public on the subject.

The first proposes a division of the property, and is entertained chiefly, we suppose, in the middle Conferences. It has the following serious disadvantages:—

1. If approved by the General Conference, it must, nevertheless, go again to all the Annual Conferences, and thus delay the pacification of the church on the subject.

2. It will not only renew the agitations of the discussion in every Annual Conference, but most probably fill in several of them, which have already condemned it, and thus leave us four years hence, just where we are at present.

3. If successful, it will, nevertheless, be in the estimation of many in all parts of the North, contrary to the spirit and constitution of our economy as a church, and a dangerous precedent.

4. It would result in a vast pecuniary sacrifice; hundreds of thousands of dollars now employed in the actual circulation of books, would be expended in merely duplicating premises, presses and stereotype plates. Whereas the present apparatus of the kind in New York would suffice for the wants of both parties.

5. It would be an endowment of a pro-slavery church with a large property, from which its General Conference could draw support for its Bishops, delegates, preachers, &c., and by which it could publish whatever works it pleased in defence of slavery; nay, it could divert the whole property given to it by any purpose whatsoever.

The second arrangement proposes to adjust the difficulty by allowing the South books at cost price, not however including in the estimate the past cost of premises, stereotype plates, presses, &c., (which were paid for before the separation, and therefore jointly), but merely the current expenses and the cost of the renewal of the plates, &c., from time to time. This plan would,

1. Avoid delay, if agreed to by both parties, as it would not have to go before the Annual Conferences. The approaching General Conference could conclude it, and thus put an end to the vexatious controversy.

2. It would be better for the South than an actual division, for the South could not manufacture books as cheaply as it could procure them from us at cost price, nor could it buy them from any other Northern house so cheaply, for none other would sell at actual cost.

3. It would consist with a regular Southern book organization or agency with its depositories, &c., which should be essentially independent, except so far as the purchase of books at cost from the North is concerned, and to which could pertain the Southern papers and the publication of such works as the North could not admit.

4. It would preserve the "Concern" in all its present capacity—undiminished a farthing as a Northern interest.

5. It would save hundreds of thousands of dollars, which must, as above stated, be wasted in duplicating presses, plates, &c., if the property is divided.

6. It would not conflict with the laws or economy of the church.

7. It need involve no relations of mutual responsibility for each other's moral position in respect to slavery or any other subject.

8. While it thus avoids all objectionable relations, it would nevertheless preserve, though in the form of a mere business transaction, a connecting link however slight, which might in the future (to which the North looks confidently for the abolition of slavery) become the nucleus of better relations, and the restoration of the old unity of the church. Men who are themselves conscious of wrong designs and management, are usually disposed to suspect others of similar faults, and this suggestion, we are aware, is liable to such a construction, but we repeat it need not involve anything in the least objectionable, and if the Northern prediction of the extinction of slavery is well founded, it will present itself to all good Methodists, as a thought to be welcomed with all the heart.

9. The details of the arrangement would be more manageable than those of a formal division.

The third proposition (entertained, we think, by very few any where) is to refuse all adjustment, and let the case go before the civil courts. It would,

1. Increase vastly the agitation of the public mind of the church on the subject, for all would be looking with anxiety for the result. The attention of the church would be thus largely and dangerously diverted from its more spiritual interests.

2. It might be delayed from year to year, a continued source of pernicious excitement.

3. It would be a great public scandal, not only to infidels and scorners, but to good men.

4. It would incur vast expense, a considerable proportion, probably, of the funds in dispute.

5. When decided it would not reconcile the opposite opinions and criminations of the parties; they would still assert their rights to it, and ascribe the decision to false grounds, &c.

6. If decided against us, it would measurably blast our moral standing before the public, and at the same time would not be so advantageous to the South as the second arrangement above mentioned.

These are our frank and mature views on this difficult subject. We most earnestly hope that the church will not waste its money and time in the quite hopeless task of effecting a division of the property, nor in the hazardous (in more senses than one) expedient of a civil prosecution, but "seek peace and pursue it"—find out, if possible, a pacific mode of settlement, and insist upon it, while a little of hope remains.

We have stated these plans in their just series. If the first is impossible, as we believe, then the second should be the alternative; if this fails, after all

possible efforts for it, then the third will alone remain, and we can meet it with better confidence. Meanwhile let us not be too much prepossessed with favorite ideas; let us meet the matter as one of practical utility. If we seek humbly the wisdom which metheth from above and which is profitable to direct, more other expedient, just and adequate, may be suggested to us. Let us be ready for any thing high wisdom and conscience may approve.

LETTER FROM THE SOUTH.

Yonkers—A. H. Brown, Esq., Baltimore Light Street Church, Revivalists—Norfolk—The Ship Pennsylvania.

Br. Stevens—I left your beautiful city for the South, on the eve of January 31st, by the way of New York. During the night, we encountered a severe gale, and were obliged to lay by on the Sound, until daylight. We arrived in New York at 12 o'clock, noon. I took the train for Newark, New Jersey, and made a visit to our excellent brother, A. I. Brown, known to all your readers in the vicinity of Boston. I found him improved very much in health, nearly, if not quite, as I should think, relieved of his difficulties. May God prolong that life which has been so filled up with usefulness. I spent but a few hours in Baltimore, and nearly all that in the Light Street Church. The audience was very large—the sermon by brother Allen, of the Baltimore Conference; text, "I will pay my vows unto God, now in the presence of all his people." He was plain and pungent in his remarks, as though the salvation of every hearer depended on the result. At the close of his sermon the altar was thronged with penitents, nearly all in the bloom of life. As they were pressing their way to the altar, the brethren were pressing into the altar as though they had something to do. I did not observe one leave the house, as I have too frequently seen in other places. They had a single prayer, then arose and sang, then another prayer, then singing, and so prayed and sang some eight or ten times, and the result was glorious—many found Christ precious.

For more than four weeks, there has been conversions every evening, and the work increases. I did not hear how it was in the other churches.

From Baltimore I came to this city, in the steamer Georgia. The city is low, and looks as it is, very ancient. Streets irregular, few public buildings, and like the houses, dilapidated. The object of principal interest to the traveler is the extensive navy yard and depot. This I have visited to-day, and find it, as in everything around me, the marks of the abomination that maketh this land desolate—a want of order and taste in everything. All seemed confusion. There were guns and timbers, balls and planks, knees and anchors, all together, and all in the mud. I noticed eight long eighteen-pounders, taken from the British, very old, made in the first part of the sixteenth century. I was permitted to go on board the great ship Pennsylvania, one of the largest ships in the world. Her dimensions may interest a portion of your readers, at least. Between perpendiculars, 210 feet; keel, 135 feet; spar deck, 223 feet; beam, 56 feet, 1 inch; depth of hold, from hand rail, 56 feet, 9 1/2 inches; number of guns, 144; height of mainmast, 137 feet; topmast, 70 feet; top gallant mast, 35 feet; main mast, 24 feet; sky-sail mast, 10 feet; this makes a fearful height. Bowprit, 80 feet; jib-boom, 65 feet; flying jib-boom 61 feet; tonnage, 3890 tons, carpenter's measurement. Her large Paixhans look as though they could do awful execution. I pray God they may never be used on this ship. Commodore Sloot hoisted his broad pennant for the first time, yesterday. From this I go to North Carolina, where you may hear from me again.

Yours truly,

ELPHAZ.

Norfolk, Va., Feb. 4, 1848.

TEXAS MAY YET BE FREE.

The Washington correspondent of the Christian Watchman, expresses strong hopes that the new state of Texas, may yet be induced to rid itself of the evil and infamy of slavery. He says:

I have good reason to believe that Texas is to become a free State at no distant day. This comes to me from a gentleman of Texas, in whose means of knowing, and ability to form just opinions, I have great confidence. He says, the Germans now coming by ship loads, and settling under the supervision of the agents of our princes and nobles, who have obtained large tracts of land, are to a man, opposed to slavery. This has already been manifested in their local elections, and indeed, Gov. Houston was compelled by the force of popular opinion, to divest himself of his slaves, in order to secure his reelection to the Senate. If on this I am not misinformed, how completely all the acts of Southern politicians will be overthrown. It was the fear that Great Britain was about to abolish slavery in Texas, that induced Mr. Upshur, then Secretary of State, in 1843, to take the initiative of annexation, and to speak of the plan on the part of Great Britain—"a movement not to be contemplated in silence, nor to be successful without the most strenuous efforts on our part to arrest a calamity so serious to every part of our country." "No two calamities," he says, "could befall the country more to be deplored than the predominance of British influence, and the abolition of slavery." And now the honest Germans are becoming predominant, and the abolition of slavery must follow; for every German emigrant comes to the ballot-box, and as one, equals the pliant, the owner of a thousand negroes. It is only in the House of Representatives of the United States, that five slaves count as much as three free citizens of New England. Shakespeare says:—

"Tis the spot,

To see the engineer hoisted with his own pennant,"

and in looking into the correspondence of the State department, we see how truly this will come to pass, when the German emigrants—men who love liberty, and their own well-being, and the prosperity of their adopted land—shall enable them to extirpate slavery out of Texas.

These hopes may seem at first glance, to be chimerical, but they are not altogether so. We have often thought how practicable it would be to overthrow Texian slavery, by a strong movement of Yankee emigration. The white population of Texas, has just been ascertained to be 150,000. But a small proportion of them are voters, and but a part of these voters slave holders—a few thousand freemen added to the foreign immigration, could soon overthrow the slave votes of the State, and cast out the abomination that maketh desolate. Perhaps the stout hearted Dutchmen from abroad, will be able to do it themselves. The great need will be suitable leaders, who will have both courage and prudence, to conduct such a movement.

GOOD SIGN IN KENTUCKY.

It is gratifying to observe the strength of anti-slavery feeling in Kentucky. Frequent but unavailing efforts have been made to repeal existing restrictions on the "domestic institution." We learn from the papers that the third or fourth attempt to repeal the law which prohibits the importation of slaves, so far as to allow their importation for use, and not for sale, was, on the 29th of January, defeated in the Senate, by a vote of 10 to 17.

PROF. MORSE MADE FACHA.

A correspondent of the Journal of Commerce, writing from Constantinople, says that "a decoration in diamonds of a Turkish Order of Honor, such as is given to Facha of two tails, is actually in the hands of our Legation, for Professor Morse, the Sultan, in return for the view of his telegraph. It will arrive in America with a Royal Diploma at the same time."

SPIRIT OF THE METHODIST PRESS.

PITTSBURGH CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE.—The new Mission Rooms—Results of our Missions—late African news.

WESTERN CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE.—Crossings about the state of the Church—Former and present times—The German Missions.

RICHMOND CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE.—Attack on Dr. Bond.

CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE AND JOURNAL.—Decision of the Supreme Court of New York.

SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE.—China Mission of the M. E. Church, South.

NORTHERN CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE.—The late Church case at New York.

The Pittsburgh Christian Advocate has a skillful correspondent in New York city, whose last letter abounds in interesting items. He says of the new Mission Rooms that:—

The building is two stories high. The first story is appropriated for the storage of missionary goods, as nearly all the clothing and other articles designed for our foreign missionary stations have to be sorted and re-packed, the want of such a room has been long felt, and has often caused serious embarrassment. The second story is fitted up something in the style of a small chapel, to accommodate the meetings of the Board of Managers. This room was dedicated to its appropriate purposes on Wednesday, the 12th inst. The missionary room is provided with suitable missionary maps, and works for reference in conducting missionary operations. Among the benefits resulting from our missionary operations, Dr. Bangs, who said he had been careful to watch its progress and note its results, enumerated the conversion of about 60,000 souls in the home and foreign departments of the work. Several annual conferences have been organized in territory once occupied as missionary ground, now, in many places where there are now large and flourishing churches, the societies were first planted by missionary effort.

The same writer gives the following items from Africa.

By a late arrival from Africa, we learn that the work of God is still progressing. The numbers added to the churches I have been unable to learn; but understand that forty of the Congo youth from the slave Pons have been hopelessly converted. In how many ways does God make the wrath of man to praise him. Bro. Benjamin remains at least till spring. Sister Wilkins, who has been ten years in Africa, finds her health much impaired, and will perhaps be compelled to visit home to recruit. Both she and sister Brush have proved blessings to Africa; and their names, sacrifices and toils will be inseparably connected with the history of the disinclination and elevation of that continent. Sister Benjamin, with a spirit worthy of the missionary cause, has proposed to remain and supply the place of Sister Wilkins, so that sister W. may come to this country in company with Bro. Benjamin, in the packet, in the spring.

The Pittsburg Advocate continues to report interesting revivals.

The Editorial leader of the Western Christian Advocate is on the complainings which have abounded in our papers, respecting the unfavorable contrast between later and former states of the Church. Men are always prone to think their own times more faulty or corrupt than the days of their fathers. Dr. Elliott contends that this prejudice respecting the Church is unjust. He says:—

These things are just such as the church always had to contend with, but by her salutary regulations, and the prudent exertions of her faithful sons, the evils have been removed, and the purity and success of the church have been secured. Such evils always have sprung up, and they always will arise; but while a timely remedy has been applied, all was safe.

The Doctor thinks the present ministry compares well with that of our fathers.

Thirty years ago we knew, in our estimation, as many deficient young men, as there are now; and we knew, also, then some old and middle aged men as deficient as any we can now find. If there be a Judas here and there now, there were such thirty years ago to our knowledge. And we cannot see that our young preachers, as a whole, are one whit behind the same class thirty or forty years ago. The circuits are not so large, it is true, but then the other duties, except preaching, are much more onerous now than then. There were some lazy preachers then, and there are just about the same proportion now; as there is likely to be the same in time to come. Yet there never was a more faithful, able, and successful ministry, except in the present age, in the Methodist Episcopal Church.

What the church wants, in order to greater usefulness, is for every man to do his duty, and trust in God for success. The difficulties of the times, in the church, are peculiar, we grant. But then the difficulties of other places, and other periods, are peculiar to those times and places, and our difficulties are to our times and circumstances.

The same No. of the Advocate contains three columns of revival news. Among them is a letter from Br. Nast, in which he says, "The Lord has been reviving his work generally throughout the German missions since last fall."

The Richmond Christian Advocate contains a caustic editorial respecting Dr. Bond, founded upon a letter from a Northern correspondent, who says the Doctor, through mere spleen, refuses to publish Doctor Bangs' late address at the opening of the new Mission Rooms. The letter is utterly virulent and anonymous; we cannot credit its charge. Our Richmond brother editor lets off a half column of squibs over it. The same letter asserts that Dr. Bond is about to advocate the division of the church property, but ascribes this purpose to bad motives.

The Nashville Christian Advocate is still belaboring the Calvinistic controversy. Its leader is an article two columns long, on the subject.

The Christian Advocate and Journal contains Judge Edmonds' late decision of the case of the Centenary Church, and discusses it at length in the leading editorial of the week. Dr. Bond makes the following statement respecting that church.

The case of the Centenary M. E. Church was not without its difficulties. It is a very clear case, now that Judge Edmonds has made it so: and one is surprised, after reading his luminous exposition, that there could have been two opinions on the subject. But we cannot forget that it was once confidently asserted, that the M. E. Church could not maintain any right to the pulpits of the Washington Street Church, on account of certain forms of expression in the deed, by which the land on which it stands had been conveyed to the trustees; and when they rejected the preacher sent to them by the Bishop, the church authorities succumbed, and the Presiding Elder accommodated them with another preacher. We earnestly advised the Bishop at the time to test the right of the trustees to reject the preacher, or if no legal measures were had, at least, to leave the church without an appointment unless it was made subject to discipline. More prudent measures prevailed, however, and it was precisely that portion of the so-called Washington Street Church, who were dissatisfied with the act of the trustees in rejecting the Rev. Mr. Griffin, who left that church, and undertook the erection of the Centenary M. E. Church, and levied their contributions at home and abroad for the purpose.

The Southern Christian Advocate informs us that the intention of a mission to China, from the M. E. Church, South, is about to be realized. The editor says:—

A special missionary meeting will be held at Norfolk, Va., shortly before the first of April next, on the occasion of the departure of the missionaries of the M. E. Church, South, for their destined field of labor, China. Happily for us, God's providence has put at our disposal two men, each of them admirably adapted, in point of qualification, for the field to which they devote themselves. The Rev. Charles Taylor, a graduate of the New York University, is just completing his medical studies in the Philadelphia College of Medicine, under the immediate instruction of Dr. James McClinton, whose special attention to the subjects of the revival are too young to cause those to fear, who think children can hardly get religion and retain it.

THE CHURCHES.

SOUTH VASSALBORO.—Rev. P. P. Morrell writes, Jan. 29:—When I came here I found some choice spirits, who found pardon through the instrumentality of my worthy predecessor, Bro. Perkins, who had a blessed revival here last spring, and all along, the work has been verging toward a happy crisis. About six weeks since I commenced a series of meetings in South China, with the help of Br. G. Strout; and although we calculated at first to hold it but two or three days, yet it lasted almost three weeks. The first week Br. S. was with me, the next, Br. D. Clark, and as the result a glorious baptism of the church, and through the community at large a general feeling and some happy conversions. The work there is still moving on with power and success, and now, a little over two weeks, more or less, I have been with Br. Strout on his charge, at the Paper Mill Village; and although he commenced under very discouraging circumstances, he yet holds on as he is accustomed to do. God has given us a glorious victory, and as the result, the scattered class has come together. Also, a large congregation, and one tremendous break down is witnessed in the community, and among some, the least expected. The meeting is still in progress. The work is spreading. A number have found mercy, and there is a general expectation of an extensive move of the people toward God. And here, on Cross's Hill, we, with our ordinary means, are having a very gracious time. There is a general feeling. The church is greatly blessed, the congregation also large, and a number are seeking salvation. Some have found it, and the prospect now is of a blessed revival. O, pray for us. To my friends around, where I have labored in years past, I would say that, through the goodness of God, my health is good, my lungs strong, and my soul happy, warm, and on its way to glory. Hallelujah to God and the Lamb.

HAMPTON, N. H.—Rev. H. Nutter writes, Feb. 9:—It cheers my heart to hear of the return of revival days among our Israel, and to encourage those who are laboring on hard soil, I would add to your revival list, by saying that God in mercy has visited this people. Some over twenty have given evidence of a change of heart. Seventeen of them have joined on trial. Some hard inebriates have given up their cups for religion and heaven. The members of the church have most all been quickened. The other churches in the place, to some extent, are sharing the influence of this work of God. The converts are zealous and persevering. To God be all the glory.

COLUMBIA, ME.—Rev. W. H. Crawford writes, Jan. 29:—As the conversion of sinners increases the happiness of the inhabitants of glory, perhaps it may be cheering to the friends of the cause of piety to know that the Lord is with us in power and salvation. Since Conference, ten persons among us have found peace with God, through simple faith in the atoning blood of Jesus, our common Savior. A number of wanderers from God and his church, have returned to the safe and peaceful fold of Christ, and the church has been abundantly blessed. We are still praying with strong faith, and laboring in hope for greater displays of the influence of that gospel, which is the power of God unto salvation to all who believe. Brethren, pray for us.

ENFIELD, N. H.—Rev. J. F. Eaton writes:—A very great and manifest change has come over us on this circuit since our camp meeting last fall. The work of grace has been gradually advancing. It has been more manifest in the church, though some prayer meetings have fallen without her pale. Our prayer meetings are fully attended, and deeply interesting, powerful and profitable. Our class meetings are seasons of peculiar refreshing from the presence of the Lord. The brethren and sisters have a "mind to work." The cry has been begged in many hearts, "O, Lord, revive thy work." God has raised up several witnesses of perfect love, who boldly though prudently testify that "Jesus' blood cleanseth from all sin." Precious truth! My soul a witness is. Others are panting for the same rich blessing. We earnestly crave an interest in the prayers of those who have access to the throne of grace, that the cloud of the "bigness of a man's hand," which appears gathering, may continue to spread, and soon overcast the whole moral horizon, and we not only hear the sound, but see the effect, and feel the power, of an abundant and glorious rain of righteousness.

We enjoyed an interesting, profitable donation visit from the brethren and friends, on the afternoon and evening of Dec. 30; which, in our embarrassed and afflictive circumstances, was highly appreciated, and very gratefully received. More than one hundred cheerful countenances and a liberal donation bespoke the sympathy and interest they felt in our welfare.

LISBON, CT.—Rev. E. Dunham writes, Jan. 22:—As I am writing on business, I would say, that the Lord is reviving his work on Franklin Circuit; there have been seven or eight conversions in Franklin of late; and in Lisbon God has converted about twelve souls since the year came in. There are others seeking the Lord, and to his name be all the praise.

TYFTONBORO, N. H.—Rev. D. W. Barber writes:—You can inform the friends of Zion that we have peace, and some prosperity, on this circuit. A few precious souls, we trust, have been converted, numbers reclaimed, and many quickened in religion. Quaker and class meetings are prized, and the preacher is not forgotten, as we have ever been supplied with plenty for man and beast, and of late have been favored with two good donation visits. The labor here is somewhat arduous, but the reward sure. Pray ye the Lord of the harvest for us.

VINCASSET, ME.—Rev. J. Higgins writes, Jan. 29:—Our revival continues; about fifty have presented themselves for prayers, and more than one half of that number are hopelessly converted; and more than one-half of the latter number are heads of families, so that some eight or ten families are now called morning and evening to hear God's word read, and hear parents pray for the first time. Just think of eight or ten families in the same street, with but one praying family, or two at the most, for more than a mile, now all engaged in this delightful employment. Many of the parents are quite aged. None of the subjects of the revival are too young to cause those to fear, who think children can hardly get religion and retain it.

TROUBLE IN THE CAMP.

The Rationalistic or worse character of Universalism, is displaying itself boldly in a controversy now raging among the denomination in this region. The late Association at Cambridge adopted some restrictive rules respecting the faith or creed of the sect, at which others revolted. The latter have sent out an appeal—a sheet nearly as large as the Herald—in which many marvellous things are revealed. The disclosures produced by this controversy are not a little significant.

GEORGE SUCKLEY, ESQ.

The New York Commercial gives the following extract, from a sermon of Prof. Hildich, preached on the death of the late George Suckley, Esq., of New York, and printed for private distribution. We have had opportunities of knowing something of the private generosity of that excellent man.

Most remember the dark days, that a few years ago, settled down upon our country. The nation seemed to be in a state of insolvency; all the banks suspended payment. In one night nearly twenty millions of property were destroyed in your city by fire. The hand of Providence seemed to be signally stretched out against our Zion. By a mysterious and awful causality, one of our venerable bishops was instantly hurried from time into eternity. Our noble Book Concern was reduced to ashes. The supplies fell off from the missionary fund, so that by many the treasury was thought to be bankrupt. In that season of disaster, and almost of despair, our worthy friend never shrank from the fullest amount of responsibility, nor shrank from any burden he was called to bear. I will remember during that dark period being at his house when he was called on to become security for a note of the treasurer of the missionary society, to the amount of about forty thousand dollars, when there seemed to be no means of payment, and many doubted the ability of the society to meet its obligations. After he had put his name on the note, he turned to me, and said, "I am determined to sink or swim with the missionary society." It was a splendid sentiment, worthy of a noble mind and generous heart.

LOUISIANA CONFERENCE.

The Nashville Christian Advocate, reports from this Conference, which commenced its session at Mendon, Jan. 5. Four preachers were received on probation, six located, two discontinued, one withdrew, three had deceased. The membership of the societies is as follows:

White,	4586
Colored,	3739
Local Preachers,	73
Total,	8398
Last year, Whites,	4715
Colored,	3329
Local Preachers,	53
Total,	8097
Increase,	291
Sunday Schools, 27, Scholars, 1128; Volumes, 3619.	
Missionary collections,	\$464 96
Self-supporting Missions,	1276 21
Collected at Conference,	300 00
Total,	\$2630 19

LEOPOLD FOUNDATION.

From the annual report of this society, for 1847, the receipts during the previous year were \$21,939.58. The remittances to this country amounted to \$18,480, which was apportioned as follows: To the bishop of New York \$1920, of Texas \$1440, of Chicago \$1440, of Hartford \$1440, (the diocese of Hartford included the States of Connecticut and Rhode Island, and the bishop resides in Providence,) of Detroit \$1440, of Cincinnati \$1440, of Vincennes \$960, of Dubuque \$960, of Milwaukee \$1200, of Charleston \$960, of Richmond \$960, to the Jesuit Mission in Oregon we suppose \$1920, to the Redeemist, (priests who belong to a society called the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer,) \$2400.

LITERARY NOTICES.

APOSTOLICAL CONSTITUTIONS.—The Rev. Dr. Chase, late of Newton Theological Seminary, has sent forth an important volume, comprising the famous Apostolical Constitutions, with the canons, Whiston's version, revised from the Greek, to which is added, forming a large portion of the volume, a prize essay, at the University of Bonn, upon the origin and contents of the Constitutions, and also an essay on the Canons by the same author, Prof. Krabbe of the University of Kiel. The volume thus presents not only the famous forgeries themselves, but a condensation of all the learning illustrative of them, now extant. Dr. Chase has executed his task with admirable ability and taste. The essays of Krabbe are such as German scholarship alone could produce, in this age; they embody a vast amount of erudition and are fine examples of historical reasoning. The ancient documents themselves, are among the most interesting curiosities of ecclesiastical literature. Though forgeries, they exerted a wide and lasting influence on the church, and in them may be detected the seminal principles of the most important corruptions of the post-Nicene church. They are very valuable as illustrations of those times, and for the light they throw on many ecclesiastical questions. We are happy to see such substantial works come forth from the American press, under the direction of American scholarship. The present one will add much to the reputation which our country has already acquired for its theological literature, a department in which its fame is more advanced and better deserved than in any other. The typographical execution of the book is of high excellence. Appleton & Co., Philadelphia.

FUNERAL SERMON, Occasioned by the death of Rev. Alexander R. Tabb, by Rev. L. D. Barrows, of Lawrence. The subject of this discourse was one of the most promising students of our University, and a most amiable and interesting young man. He passed, through circumstances of peculiar affliction, into an early grave, leaving behind a fragrant memory. Bro. Barrows has paid him a tribute, brief, but worthy of both the author and the subject. The discourse is mainly a discussion of the mystery of the dispensations of Providence and the reasons for that mystery. It is lucidly and ably written.

CYCLOPEDIA of Moral and Religious Anecdotes. Leavitt, Trow & Co., New York, have sent us the first No. of a new work, bearing this title. It has been compiled by Rev. K. Arvine, A. M., and is prefaced by an introduction, from Dr. Cheever. The author has gone thoroughly into his task, producing a work of more value than any other of the kind extant. Its classification is admirable; the convenience of such a volume to preachers and teachers, as a repository of illustrative facts, is too obvious, to need comment. It will be completed in 8 Nos., at 25 cts. each. Wiley, Boston.

BAKER'S Elementary Music Book is the title of a small volume, comprising the elements of musical instruction, and a variety of songs, hymns, chants, &c., adapted to public and private schools. The instructions are exceedingly well prepared and is a work of great integrity.

THE CHRISTIAN WREATH, for January, contains two engravings and a good list of articles. It is neat-printed, and one of the cheapest periodicals of its size and character. \$1 per annum. Chadwick, 23 Court street.

PREPARATION FOR THE PULPIT, an Essay on the Composition and delivery of Sermons: by Rev. James Rawson, A. M.—Here is a valuable little book, pretending to not much originality, for most of its matter will be found substantially in Porter, and other authors, but presenting *multum in parvo*, and in a style of perspicuity and directness quite admirable. The reader will suffer no risk of losing the recollection of important ideas amidst a multiplicity of common

place ones; but the whole subject is skeletonized, and aptly illustrated within 85 pages of 32mo. The book is cheap, and we hope there is no young Methodist preacher in New England who will not peruse it. Those who are in the habit of "hooking" skeletons, will find in it a temptation, for it contains several super-excellent ones.—Peirce, 3 Cornhill.

THE LATE NEW YORK DECISION.

The New York Post publishes a second edition of the decision of the New York Supreme Court in the case of the Centenary Church, corrected by Judge Edmonds, who pronounced it. The editor of the Post, under the heading of "The Great Question Decided," says:—"This document will be read with intense interest and great satisfaction by every member of that large and influential church—the membership of which has been so wonderfully enlarged by the faithful services of a devoted ministry. All other denominations of Christians holding church property, are equally interested in the decision." The question may be appealed to the Court of Errors, but we can hardly doubt the result.

OBITUARIES.

These articles are accumulating greatly on our hands. Brethren should certainly exercise more discrimination respecting them. Many of them have no public interest whatever, and the incessant publication of such, only detracts from the department, and leads the reader to disregard others that may be really useful and interesting. The biographical department of our papers, ought to be the most precious one in them; but as at present conducted, it is mostly so much waste paper. We flatter ourselves that we have effected an important improvement in this department, in the Herald, so far as brevity is concerned; but its articles are

